Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend page 2, second paragraph of the specification as follows:

The production of an aluminum piston is described in *Japanese Patent No. JP-A 63256287*, in which a trapezoid-shaped ring consisting of a more heat-resistant aluminum alloy is inserted into a combustion depression that is shaped like a truncated cone, in order to armor the depression edge. The ring is connected with the piston by pressure/friction welding. The geometric design of the ring and the combustion depression, however, have the result that material heated during the friction-welding process can escape at the parting only in the direction of the piston head, and the typical welding flash is formed there, since the material that flows in the direction of the bottom of the combustion depression cannot exit, because of the finite expanse of the face of the ring. The result of this is an insufficient ~~join~~ joint, which is characterized by air inclusions, i.e. the formation of bubbles.

Please amend page 8, second paragraph as follows:

After the two piston blanks 1 and 2 have been connected with armoring ring 3 by friction welding, armoring ring 3 is cut in a parting plane ~~TR~~ TE that is located between the pistons, and the separated piston blanks 1 and 2 are end-machined with depression edge armoring 8, by a cutting work method, as shown in Fig. 2. The application of this method is not limited to the piston type shown in Fig. 2.